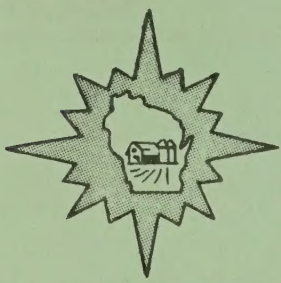


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Vol. XIII, No. 2

December 1980

Cream of the News

Milk production in Wisconsin continued above a year earlier, with November's output up 2.5 percent.

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese declined in November, while Swiss cheese remained the same as in October.

Weekly estimates for November indicated that butter and American cheese production in Wisconsin and the Nation continued above a year ago.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in November were up 40 cents from the previous month and \$1.40 higher than last year.

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of November were up 63 percent from a year earlier and the highest for that date since 1962.

Higher prices for milk, eggs, and crops as of mid-November offset declines for most livestock, resulting in a 4 point increase in the index of prices received.

The 1980 crop season had good growing conditions but poor harvesting weather in August and September.

Frost penetration in Wisconsin as of mid-December increased from two weeks earlier as snow cover was very light.

Livestock slaughter in Wisconsin and the Nation during November was below a year ago except for sheep and lambs.

Cold storage stocks of red meat in the Nation at the end of November were up 4 percent from the previous year, but stocks of poultry were down 7 percent.

Beef and hog prices in Wisconsin during November were lower than a month earlier.

The inventory of hogs and pigs on Wisconsin farms December 1 was below that date last year.

MILK PRODUCTION REMAINS ABOVE YEAR EARLIER

Dairy herds in Wisconsin produced 1,682 million pounds of milk during November, an increase of 2.5 percent from November 1979. The State's monthly milk production has been above the previous year since April 1979. Production per cow averaged 925 pounds for November, up 20 pounds from last year. There were 1,818,000 milk cows on Wisconsin farms during November, an increase of 5,000 cows from a year ago and the highest number since March 1973. Wisconsin's milk production declined seasonally about 6 percent from October to November, slightly less than in those months of 1979. During January through November of this year, milk production in Wisconsin was 2.5 percent greater than in that period last year. Output of milk in the State for 1980 is likely to total a record high of 22.5 billion pounds. Wisconsin produces almost 18 percent of the Nation's milk production.

Milk production in the Nation during November totaled 10 billion pounds, 4 percent above a year earlier. Production per cow averaged 923 pounds, up 28 pounds from November 1979. The number of milk cows on farms in November was 1 percent more than last year. Accumulated milk production from January through November was 4 percent higher than a year ago.

Milk Production

Selected States	November 1979	November 1980	Jan.-Nov. 1980	Change from last year	
				Nov.	Jan.-Nov.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . .	1,641	1,682	20,725	+ 2	+ 3
Minnesota . . .	667	693	8,621	+ 4	+ 3
New York . . .	820	841	10,052	+ 3	+ 3
Pennsylvania . .	657	711	7,778	+ 8	+ 5
California . . .	1,035	1,099	12,395	+ 6	+ 8
Other states . .	4,837	5,017	58,100	+ 4	+ 3
United States .	9,657	10,043	117,671	+ 4	+ 4

MILK PRICE UP IN NOVEMBER

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers during November were expected to average \$13.80 a hundredweight, an increase

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of 40 cents from October and \$1.40 above last year.

The October milk price average of \$13.40 a hundredweight was up 52 cents from the previous month and \$1.15 higher than a year ago. Milkfat content for October averaged 3.85 percent, nearly the same as in October 1979.

Grade A market milk averaged \$13.51 a hundredweight in October, a gain of 54 cents from September and \$1.12 more than a year earlier. Manufacturing grade milk returned an average of \$13.14 a hundredweight during October, up 47 cents from the previous month and \$1.20 above a year ago.

The 3.5 percent base price for manufacturing grade milk in October was \$12.58 a hundredweight, 22 cents below the Government support price.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	September 1980		October price per cwt.			Nov. 1980 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1979	1980	79/80 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.72	12.88	12.25	13.40	+ 9	13.80
Minnesota	3.61	12.50	11.93	12.92	+ 8	13.20
Iowa	3.64	12.70	12.10	13.30	+ 10	13.50
New York	3.55	13.60	12.90	14.10	+ 9	14.20
California	3.57	13.10	12.00	13.50	+ 13	14.00
United States . .	3.59	13.20	12.60	13.70	+ 9	14.00
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.70	12.97	12.39	13.51	+ 9	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.77	12.67	11.94	13.14	+ 10	XXX
Creameries . . .	3.76	12.61	11.81	13.10	+ 11	XXX
Cheese factories	3.77	12.69	11.96	13.16	+ 10	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.74	12.50	11.83	13.02	+ 10	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Oct. 1979	Sept. 1980	Oct. 1980 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Market milk	11.92	12.64	12.94	+ 9
Manufacturing milk	11.48	12.27	12.58	+ 10
Creameries	11.36	12.23	12.54	+ 10
American cheese plants	11.48	12.27	12.58	+ 10
Varied products plants	11.37	12.14	12.49	+ 10
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . .	11.77	12.52	12.81	+ 9

1/Computed using milkfat differential. 2/Preliminary.

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Statisticians

Carrol D. Spencer, *In Charge*

Jim Davies, *Assistant in Charge*

Ed Lippert

Laverne E. Krahn

John S. Rowe

Ronald F. Kriesel

Editor

Marvin Heiser

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OCTOBER CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION ABOVE YEAR AGO

Cheese and butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during October continued higher than a year earlier. The Nation's cheese production was up 7 percent from October 1979. Both American and Italian cheese showed gains of 7 percent. Although output of Brick and Muenster in October was down 5 percent from last year, production of Swiss increased 8 percent and all other varieties were up 9 percent.

Dairy plants in Wisconsin produced 79.4 million pounds of American cheese in October, 4 percent more than a year ago. Iowa's output of American cheese was 2 percent lower than in October 1979, but Minnesota had a gain of 12 percent and other states increased 8 percent.

Butter production in the Nation during October was 15 percent higher than the previous year. California had the largest increase at 30 percent. The 21.8 million pounds of butter churned in Wisconsin during October were 8 percent more than a year earlier. Minnesota increased its butter output 18 percent from October last year, while other states showed a gain of 13 percent.

Cottage cheese production in the Nation during October was below a year ago except for lowfat cottage cheese which increased 14 percent. The National ice cream production in October was up 1 percent from the previous year.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	October 1979	October 1980	Jan.-Oct. 1980	Change from last year	
				Oct.	Jan.-Oct.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	20,162	21,800	244,500	+ 8	+ 15
Minnesota	10,450	12,280	136,705	+ 18	+ 2
California	12,739	16,500	156,400	+ 30	+ 29
Other states	34,655	39,023	417,840	+ 13	+ 17
United States	78,006	89,603	955,445	+ 15	+ 16
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	76,104	79,400	831,300	+ 4	+ 6
Minnesota	32,933	36,895	372,570	+ 12	+ 7
Iowa	7,867	7,695	79,425	- 2	- 2
Other states	57,489	61,971	692,911	+ 8	+ 9
United States	174,393	185,961	1,976,206	+ 7	+ 7
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	16,162	17,474	184,283	+ 8	+ 2
Brick and Muenster	6,647	6,339	67,178	- 5	+ 5
Italian	79,027	84,320	805,199	+ 7	+ 4
All other	31,235	33,978	252,424	+ 9	+ 4
Total	133,071	142,111	1,309,084	+ 7	+ 4
ALL CHEESE					
United States	307,464	328,072	3,285,290	+ 7	+ 6
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	56,655	55,863	571,483	- 1	+ 1
Creamed 2/	71,236	69,075	710,510	- 3	n. c.
Lowfat 3/	13,380	15,202	148,705	+ 14	+ 11
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
ICE CREAM					
Wisconsin	1,408	1,600	16,900	+ 14	+ 8
Illinois	3,108	3,070	34,770	- 1	- 5
Iowa	1,261	955	11,211	- 24	- 4
Michigan	2,657	3,300	31,250	+ 24	+ 9
Minnesota	2,783	2,275	25,880	- 18	- 8
Other states	55,755	56,329	599,989	+ 1	+ 2
United States	66,972	67,529	720,000	+ 1	+ 2

1/Mostly used for processing into creamed or lowfat cottage cheese. 2/Fat content 4 percent or more. 3/Fat content less than 4 percent.

BUTTER STOCKS UP 63 PERCENT

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of November totaled 297.7 million pounds, an increase of 63 percent from a year earlier. This was the largest amount of butter in cold storage for that date since 1962. Government-owned stocks of butter at 255.7 million pounds were 65 percent more than on November 30, 1979. Wisconsin had 32.7 million pounds of butter in cold storage at the end of November, up 55 percent from last year.

The Nation's cheese stocks in cold storage on November 30th totaled 563.3 million pounds, an increase of 7 percent from a year ago and the most for that date since 1954. American cheese stocks, at 458.5 million pounds, were up 8 percent from November 30, 1979. The Government had 80.5 million pounds of American cheese in storage at the end of November compared with only 1.3 million pounds the previous year. American cheese stocks in Wisconsin totaled 208.2 million pounds, a decline of 11 percent from a year ago.

Swiss cheese stocks at the end of November were 4 percent higher than a year earlier, while stocks of all other cheese showed little change.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1978	Nov. 30, 1979	Nov. 30, 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter	228,855	182,118	297,656	+ 63
Cheese, American	357,045	424,228	458,528	+ 8
Cheese, Swiss	11,144	13,523	14,065	+ 4
Cheese, all other	62,772	90,464	90,688	n. c.
Cheese, total	430,961	528,215	563,281	+ 7
	WISCONSIN			
Butter	23,454	21,150	32,678	+ 55
Cheese, American	185,559	233,012	208,194	-11
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter	206,704	155,032	255,699	+ 65
Cheese, American	9,307	1,319	80,459	XXX

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products, United States

Commodity	Oct. 31 1978	Oct. 31 1979	Oct. 31 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk	5,319	4,908	3,385	-31
Dried skim milk	53,259	94,538	77,843	-18
Dried buttermilk	1,941	3,531	6,348	+ 80
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	113,826	118,773	93,382	-21

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

CHEDDAR CHEESE PRICE LOWER

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese at Wisconsin assembly points declined from October to November. Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 140.50 cents a pound for November, down two-thirds of a cent from the previous month but nearly 15 cents above last year.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged \$1.92 a pound during November, the same as a month earlier but 32½ cents higher than a year ago.

The 92-score butter price at New York averaged 153.59 cents a pound in November, an increase of 1 cent from October and more than 18 cents above November 1979.

National evaporated milk prices averaged \$20.68 a case for November, up 27 cents from the previous month and nearly \$2.00 higher than a year earlier.

Prices for nonfat dry milk solids averaged 93.33 cents a pound in November, a gain of about 1½ cents from October and 9½ cents above last year.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	November 1979	October 1980	November 1980
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	135.27¢	152.62¢	153.59¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. block, pound 1/ . . .	125.76¢	141.18¢	140.50¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block, pound 1/	159.50¢	192.00¢	192.00¢
National evaporated milk, case, 48 13-fluid-oz. cans	\$18.72	\$20.41	\$20.68
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	83.84¢	91.89¢	93.33¢

1/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

BUTTER AND AMERICAN CHEESE PRODUCTION TO CONTINUE ABOVE YEAR AGO

Weekly estimates of butter and American cheese production in Wisconsin and the Nation during November indicated a continuation of increased output compared with a year earlier. The National butter production for November is expected to be up 10 percent from last year. During the first ten months of 1980, butter output in the Nation was 16 percent higher than in that period of 1979. Wisconsin's butter production in November is also expected to be above a year ago, but the increase will be substantially less than the 15 percent gain shown for January through October.

American cheese production in the Nation during November averaged about 7 percent more than in November 1979, equalling the increase during the first ten months of this year. Wisconsin's output of American cheese in November continued above the previous year. The State's production of American cheese during January through October was 6 percent greater than in that period of 1979.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1980	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1980	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
October . .	89,603	+ 15	+ 8	185,961	+ 7	+ 4
Jan.-Oct. . .	955,445	+ 16	+ 15	1,976,206	+ 7	+ 6
Weeks ending						
Nov. 6 . .	20,000	+ 14	+ 1	40,000	+ 6	+ 8
Nov. 13 . .	20,000	+ 17	- 1	41,000	+ 10	+ 11
Nov. 20 . .	19,000	+ 18	+ 9	40,500	+ 13	+ 13
Nov. 27 . .	18,800	- 6	+ 5	40,300	n. c.	- 1
Total	77,800	+ 10	XXX	161,800	+ 7	XXX

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX HIGHER IN MID-NOVEMBER

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-November was up 4 points from a month earlier. Higher prices for milk, eggs, and crops offset declines for most livestock. At 291 percent of the 1967 base, the index of prices received was 28 points (11 percent) above November 1979. The index of prices paid increased 3 points from October to November, and it was 39 points (15 percent) higher than a year ago. Costs were up for feed, fuel, autos, trucks, and family living items.

Milk cow prices went against the trend of lower livestock prices in November. At an average of \$1,200.00 per head, milk cows were up \$20.00 from October and \$110.00 higher than the previous year.

Steers and heifers averaged \$60.20 a hundredweight as of November 15, a decline of \$4.10 from October and \$4.30 under last year. Slaughter cows returned \$44.60 a hundredweight for November, down \$1.90 from the previous month and \$3.00 less than a year ago.

Calves averaged \$92.00 a hundredweight in mid-November, off \$7.00 from October and \$20.00 below November 1979. Hogs brought \$44.90 a hundredweight for November, down \$2.10 from a month earlier but \$10.60 above last year.

Sheep averaged \$14.50 a hundredweight in November, a decline of \$1.50 from the previous month and \$4.50 less than a year ago. Lambs, at an average of \$58.00 a hundredweight for November, were \$6.00 lower than in October and \$2.00 under November 1979.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Month of Nov. 1978	Month of Nov. 1979	October 15 1980	November 15 1980
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	835.00	1,090.00	1,180.00	1,200.00
Steers and heifers . .	Cwt.	49.20	64.50	64.30	60.20
Cows, slaughter . . .	Cwt.	40.00	47.60	46.50	44.60
Calves	Cwt.	67.50	112.00	99.00	92.00
Hogs	Cwt.	46.50	34.30	47.00	44.90
Sheep	Cwt.	18.50	19.00	16.00	14.50
Lambs	Cwt.	57.91	60.00	64.00	58.00
Turkeys	Lb.	.490	.480	.490	.500
Eggs	Doz.	.469	.600	.453	.562
Corn	Bu.	1.92	2.33	2.91 1/	2.95
Wheat	Bu.	2.98	3.58	4.10	4.38
Oats	Bu.	1.18	1.32	1.46 1/	1.58
Soybeans	Bu.	6.15	5.89	7.60	8.30
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	35.50	30.00	42.00	42.00

1/Average for the month.

Turkeys averaged 50 cents a pound liveweight in November, the highest price since January 1979. Prices for turkeys were up 1 cent from October and 2 cents more than last year. Eggs averaged about 56 cents a dozen as of mid-November, an increase of 11 cents from the previous month but 4 cents below a year earlier.

Crop prices increased in November to their highest levels in recent years. Wheat averaged \$4.38 a bushel as of November 15, the highest price in 6 years. Wheat prices were up 28 cents from October and 80 cents above last year. Corn brought an average of \$2.95 a bushel in mid-November, the best price since August 1975. Corn increased 4 cents from

October and was 62 cents more than the previous year.

Oats averaged \$1.58 a bushel for mid-November, a gain of 12 cents from October and 26 cents above a year ago. This was the highest price for oats since April 1977.

Soybeans returned an average of \$8.30 a bushel for November, the best price since May 1977. Soybeans were up 70 cents from October and \$2.41 more than a year earlier.

Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$42.00 a ton in November, the same as the previous month but \$12.00 higher than last year.

REVIEW OF 1980 CROP AND WEATHER SEASON

The 1980 crop season had good growing conditions but poor harvesting weather in August and September. Due to a dry spring, planting of crops was completed earlier than usual. All crops were mature before the first hard statewide frost in early October. The very heavy rains in late summer affected the quantity and quality of certain crops. Some acreage of oats, hay, mint, tobacco, carrots, lettuce, and sweet corn was lost because of excessive rainfall. The weather and field conditions improved in October and November. All harvesting was completed except for corn on fields that remained too soft to support machinery. Much fall tillage was accomplished.

Based on preliminary data, the crop production index for 1980 averaged 124 percent of the 1967 base year. This was 1 point below 1979. Both soybeans and corn for grain had record high production due to increased acreage and very good yields. Oat yields were up in 1980 but poor combining conditions resulted in a greater abandonment of acreage. Hay production was lower than in 1979 as winterkill and dry spring weather reduced the acreage and first crop yields. Tobacco production declined when bad weather lowered the number of acres harvested. Production of potatoes and processed vegetables fell in 1980 with a reduction of acreage. The apple and cranberry crops were large, but the cherry crop was lower than in 1979. Excessive rainfall sharply reduced the production of mint, carrots, and lettuce.

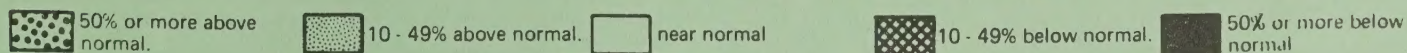
Total rainfall for the 1980 growing season from April 1st to September 30th averaged 26.9 inches. This was 7.7 inches more than received for that period in 1979, and it was 5.5 inches above normal (1941-70). August and September were extremely wet, accounting for 52 percent of the 1980 growing season rainfall. The 13.9 inches of rain that fell in August and September were the most for any consecutive months except May and June of 1892.

Rainfall for the 1980 growing season was one-fourth more than normal. The west central district had the most rain with 31.17 inches, 42 percent above normal. Due to a very dry April and May, growing season rainfall in the northwest district was only 5 percent more than normal for that area.

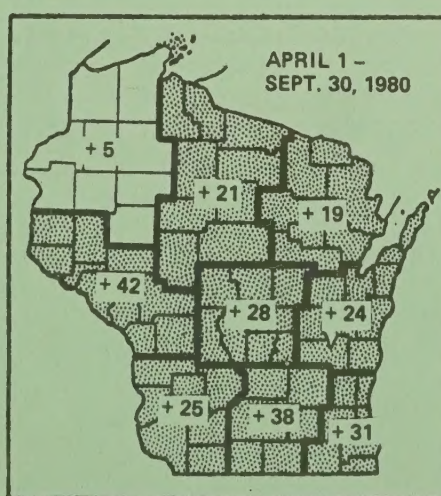
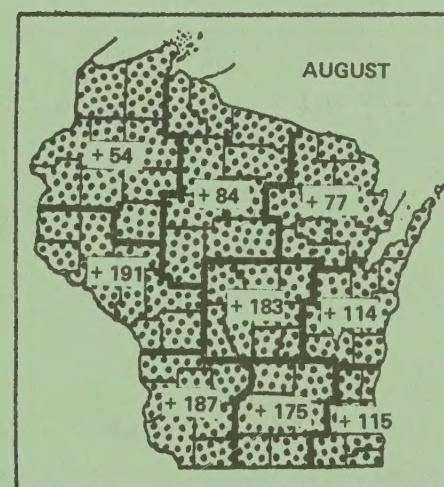
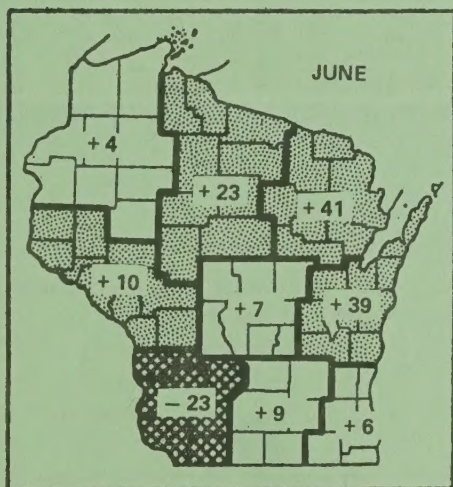
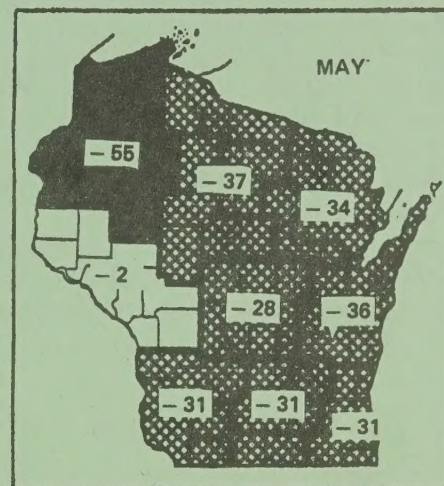
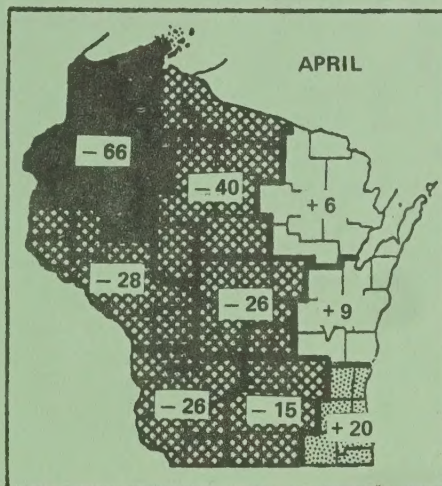
Temperatures during the growing season averaged higher than normal in April, May, July, and August, while June and September were cooler than usual. Growing degree days from April 1st to October 5th averaged 7 percent above normal. The last frost of spring was on June 16th, and the first frost of fall occurred on September 17th in northern areas. A hard freeze statewide on October 5th ended the growing season.

WEATHER SUMMARY

Precipitation; average by crop districts



Figures show average percent above or below normal for crop districts.



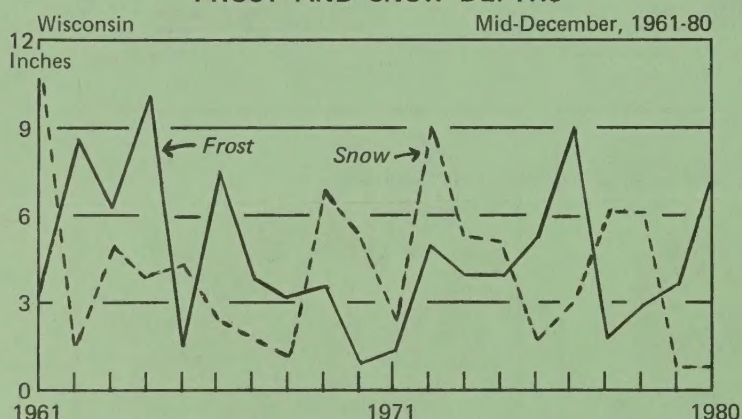
DECEMBER CROP REPORT

Snowfall in the first three weeks of December was very light. Snow depths in Wisconsin as of December 19th averaged only 1 inch compared with an average of 4½ inches for that date from 1961-79. A year ago the snow cover was also light at less than 1 inch. Only the northern part of Wisconsin has any snow on the ground, but the snow cover there is not very deep except for several inches accumulation in the Lake Superior snowbelt region.

Frost depths as of December 19th averaged 7 inches, an increase of 5½ inches from two weeks earlier. Colder temperatures and the lack of a protective snow cover has allowed frost penetration to increase. The frost is becoming quite hard in the moist soil. Cemetery officials report finding moisture to the full depth of most graves.

Farmers were able to continue harvesting of corn for grain after the ground froze hard enough to support machinery. Tobacco growers have been stripping their 1980 crop and putting it into bales.

FROST AND SNOW DEPTHS

RED MEAT STOCKS UP
BUT POULTRY STOCKS DOWN

Stocks of red meat in the Nation at the end of November totaled 681 million pounds, an increase of 4 percent from a

year ago. Beef supplies in cold storage amounted to 281.6 million pounds, 13 percent under last year. Pork stocks, at 320.3 million pounds, were 25 percent more than on November 30, 1979. Stocks of veal were down 14 percent from the previous year, while lamb and mutton stocks declined 11 percent.

There were 407.1 million pounds of poultry in cold storage at the end of November, 7 percent below a year earlier. Supplies of frozen chicken were down 5 percent and turkey stocks were 8 percent under November 30, 1979.

Cold Storage Stocks of Red Meat and Poultry
United States, November 30, 1980, and Comparisons

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1978	Nov. 30, 1979	Oct. 31, 1980	Nov. 30, 1980	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
FROZEN MEAT					
Beef	388,177	321,854	243,309	281,619	-13
Pork	245,178	257,237	267,768	320,283	+25
Veal	7,949	8,623	6,244	7,417	-14
Lamb and mutton	11,804	11,071	8,165	9,798	-11
CANNED MEATS IN COOLER					
Hams	44,874	41,189	43,875	47,396	+15
Other meats	17,372	16,961	12,882	14,547	-14
Total red meat 1/	715,354	656,935	582,243	681,059	+4
FROZEN POULTRY					
Chicken, all	106,335	149,818	151,632	142,805	-5
Turkeys, all	236,204	281,208	418,337	259,377	-8
Total poultry 2/	346,418	436,578	577,056	407,135	-7

1/Excludes cooler beef and cooler pork. 2/Includes frozen ducks.

STATE'S LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
BELOW NOVEMBER 1979

The number of cattle, calves, and hogs slaughtered in Wisconsin during November was down from a year earlier. The November cattle kill of 82,200 head was 20 percent less than the previous year. Cow slaughter declined 19 percent, while the federally inspected slaughter of steers and heifers was down 26 percent.

Calf slaughter for November was also 20 percent under last year. There were 174,600 hogs butchered in Wisconsin during

Commercial Slaughter, November 1979 and 1980, Wisconsin and United States 1/

Species and area	Number slaughtered						Total liveweight		
	November			January - November			November		
	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/	1979	1980	Change from last year 2/
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds		Percent
WISCONSIN									
Cattle, all	102.2	82.2	-20	922.4	1,052.0	+14	120.9	97.9	-19
Cows 3/	56.1	45.5	-19	441.4	487.7	+10	—	—	—
Steers and heifers 3/	31.7	23.3	-26	335.1	413.6	+23	—	—	—
Calves	39.1	31.2	-20	313.1	353.0	+13	7.4	6.5	-13
Hogs, all	183.0	174.6	-5	1,982.5	2,100.6	+6	43.4	42.0	-3
Sows 3/	2.4	2.8	+17	31.0	25.2	-19	—	—	—
Sheep and lambs5	.6	+20	5.0	6.0	+20	54 4/	624/	+15
UNITED STATES									
Cattle, all	2,798	2,711	-3	31,025	30,877	n. c.	2,996	2,902	-3
Cows 3/	533	565	+6	5,053	5,342	+6	—	—	—
Heifers 3/	755	687	-9	8,448	8,199	-3	—	—	—
Steers 3/	1,254	1,202	-4	14,993	14,752	-2	—	—	—
Calves	240	214	-11	2,608	2,349	-10	56	53	-6
Hogs, all	8,499	7,706	-9	81,463	87,884	+8	2,083	1,897	-9
Sows 3/	527	417	-21	4,300	4,722	+10	—	—	—
Sheep and lambs	403	433	+7	4,614	5,090	+10	46	49	+8

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Percent change based on unrounded values. 3/Federally inspected only. 4/Expressed in thousands.

November, a decline of 5 percent from a year ago. Sow slaughter was up 17 percent from November 1979.

The 600 sheep and lambs slaughtered in November were 100 head more than a year earlier.

Livestock slaughter in the Nation during November was also below the previous year except for sheep and lambs.

HOG INVENTORY LOWER

The inventory of hogs and pigs in Wisconsin and the Nation on December 1 was below a year ago. Hog producers in the Nation had 4 percent fewer hogs on hand December 1, but it was still the second largest inventory for that date since 1970. Total inventory of hogs in the 14 major states was nearly 55 million head. Breeding stock was down 4 percent from December 1 last year as was the number of market hogs.

The pig crop born during June through November was 6 percent below that period in 1979, while the number of sows farrowing declined 7 percent. Farrowing intentions for December through February show a decline of 6 percent from a year earlier, and farrowings for March through May are expected to be down 5 percent.

Wisconsin's hog inventory of 1.7 million head on December 1 was 8 percent under the previous year. Breeding stock

was down 15 percent and market hogs declined 7 percent. Farrowings for the next quarter are expected to be 9 percent below a year ago, and farrowing intentions for March through May show a decrease of 12 percent.

Sows Farrowed and Sows to Farrow
December 1/ through May, 1980 and 1981, 14 States

State	December through February			March through May		
	1980	1981 2/	Change from last year	1980	1981 2/	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Georgia	115	120	+ 4	120	120	n. c.
Illinois	320	300	- 6	460	415	-10
Indiana	220	205	- 7	225	220	- 2
Iowa	700	680	- 3	960	940	- 2
Kansas	103	98	- 5	118	113	- 4
Kentucky	73	58	-21	82	70	-15
Minnesota	295	290	- 2	320	320	n. c.
Missouri	220	210	- 5	285	240	-16
Nebraska	200	180	-10	250	240	- 4
North Carolina	150	125	-17	145	125	-14
Ohio	105	95	-10	105	105	n. c.
South Dakota	86	76	-12	130	117	-10
Texas	48	48	n. c.	43	52	+21
Wisconsin	105	95	-10	113	100	-12
Total 14 States	2,740	2,580	- 6	3,356	3,177	- 5

1/December preceding year, 2/Number indicated by breeding intentions report.

All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Breeding and Market, December 1, 1979 and 1980, 14 States

State	For breeding			Market			Total hogs and pigs		
	1979	1980	Change from last year	1979	1980	Change from last year	1979	1980	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Georgia	342	380	+ 11	2,018	1,920	- 5	2,360	2,300	- 3
Illinois	938	891	- 5	6,012	5,709	- 5	6,950	6,600	- 5
Indiana	680	625	- 8	4,170	3,975	- 5	4,850	4,600	- 5
Iowa	2,106	2,095	- 1	14,094	14,005	- 1	16,200	16,100	- 1
Kansas	275	265	- 4	1,815	1,635	-10	2,090	1,900	- 9
Kentucky	220	183	-17	1,250	1,037	-17	1,470	1,220	-17
Minnesota	784	816	+ 4	4,116	4,284	+ 4	4,900	5,100	+ 4
Missouri	739	633	-14	3,911	3,347	-14	4,650	3,980	-14
Nebraska	560	545	- 3	3,590	3,355	- 7	4,150	3,900	- 6
North Carolina	390	340	-13	2,260	2,120	- 6	2,650	2,460	- 7
Ohio	300	265	-12	1,820	1,885	+ 4	2,120	2,150	+ 1
South Dakota	276	260	- 6	1,724	1,600	- 7	2,000	1,860	- 7
Texas	130	130	n. c.	780	800	+ 3	910	930	+ 2
Wisconsin	315	269	-15	1,515	1,411	- 7	1,830	1,680	- 8
Total 14 States	8,055	7,697	- 4	49,075	47,083	- 4	57,130	54,780	- 4

Sows Farrowing, Pigs Per Litter and Pig Crop, September through November, 1979 and 1980, 14 States

State	Sows farrowing			Pigs per litter		Pig crop 1/		
	1979	1980	Change from last year	1979	1980	1979	1980	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	Head		1,000 head		Percent
Georgia	103	105	+ 2	7.12	6.65	733	698	- 5
Illinois	375	360	- 4	6.84	7.00	2,565	2,520	- 2
Indiana	210	205	- 2	7.10	7.50	1,491	1,538	+ 3
Iowa	830	860	+ 4	7.10	7.35	5,893	6,321	+ 7
Kansas	110	104	- 5	7.60	7.10	836	738	-12
Kentucky	83	68	-18	7.00	6.90	581	469	-19
Minnesota	270	280	+ 4	7.35	7.30	1,984	2,044	+ 3
Missouri	295	250	-15	7.20	7.20	2,124	1,800	-15
Nebraska	235	215	- 9	7.30	7.45	1,716	1,602	- 7
North Carolina	135	130	- 4	7.00	7.30	945	949	n. c.
Ohio	110	106	- 4	7.30	7.40	803	784	- 2
South Dakota	119	100	-16	7.20	7.35	857	735	-14
Texas	43	44	+ 2	7.20	7.50	310	330	+ 6
Wisconsin	105	100	- 5	7.40	7.55	777	755	- 3
Total 14 States	3,023	2,927	- 3	7.15	7.27	21,615	21,283	- 2

1/Number of pigs born September through November, that were on hand December 1, or had been sold.

BEEF MARKET DOWN

Prices of beef cattle at Wisconsin auction markets declined during November. Large frame number two Holstein feeder steers weighing 800 to 1,000 pounds averaged \$54.34 a hundredweight in November. This was \$3.81 below the previous month and \$4.06 under a year earlier.

Good and choice Holstein fed steers weighing 1,100 to 1,500 pounds averaged \$56.21 a hundredweight for November,

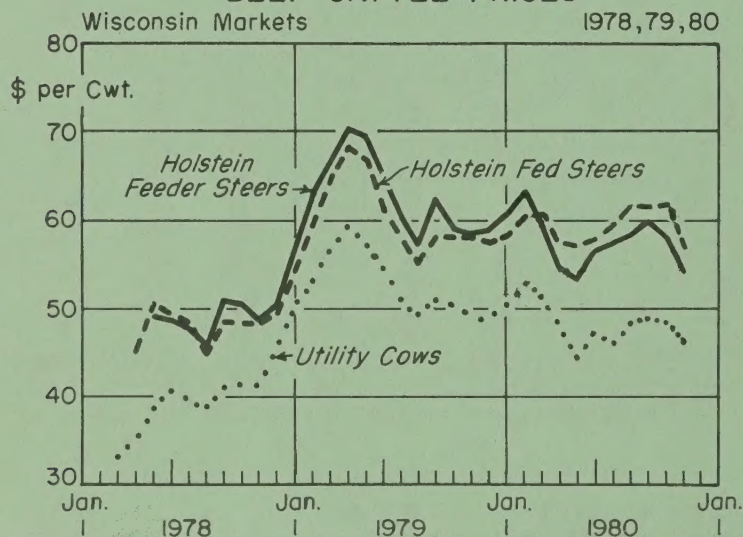
a decline of \$5.80 from October and the lowest price since August 1979. A year ago the fed steer price averaged \$57.45 a hundredweight.

Utility cows averaged \$46.06 a hundredweight in November, down \$2.47 from a month earlier and \$3.94 below the previous year.

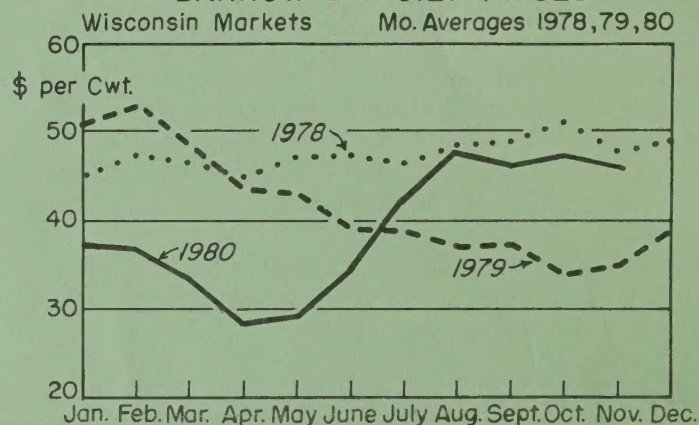
HOG PRICES LOWER

Prices paid for barrows and gilts at Wisconsin packing plants and country buying stations during November averaged \$46.03 a hundredweight. This was \$1.44 less than the previous month but \$8.85 above a year ago.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES



BARROW and GILT PRICES



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